Reviewer’s report

Title: Chronic kidney disease and HIV in the era of antiretroviral treatment: findings from a 10-year cohort study in a West African setting

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Reviewer: Ikechi Okpechi

Reviewer’s report:

This is an interesting manuscript from Burkina Faso by Kabore et al. In this paper titled "Chronic kidney disease and HIV in the era of antiretroviral treatment: findings from a 10-year cohort study in a West African setting", the authors aim is to "determine the frequency of CKD and changes in kidney function during antiretroviral treatment (ART) in a large cohort of HIV-patients followed in Burkina Faso". They present data on 3138 HIV positive patients starting ART in Burkina Faso and describe baseline renal function as well as changes (loss / gain) of GFR over a 10-year period from the time of treatment initiation. They identified some factors associated with CKD.

My main concern about this paper is regarding the prevalence of CKD reported. At baseline the prevalence of CKD was found to be (0.5%). However, even though there were fluctuations in GFR in all the groups, it did not appear that the prevalence of CKD changed over the 10-year period, this even after reporting factors associated with CKD progression. If they have to discuss disease progression, at least they should give an indication of CKD prevalence at end of follow-up (at 10-years). I think this is where their paper is confusing: you can't seem to determine if the study methodology is designed to follow up patients from the time of starting ARTs or if it is just a snap-shot study to determine at one time the prevalence of CKD. The authors should fix this. Otherwise, it is a good paper.

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